

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0018] with the following paragraph wherein unintended punctuation in line 11 is removed:

[0018] In an exemplary embodiment, the body 14 is formed integrally with at least one linking portion 50 extending from one of the opposed ends 30 to join at least one retainer portion 54 to the body 14. The retainer portions 54 are stamped in a generally planar arrangement with outer ends 58. The retainer portions 54 have at least one lance 62 extending laterally therefrom transverse to the longitudinal axis 42. Optionally, and as illustrated in Figure 2, the retainer portions 54 include a pair of opposed lances 62 extending in opposite directions on each side of the longitudinal axis 42 before the contact 10 is formed or bent into the shape shown in Figure 1. The lances 62 may be substantially triangular in shape with points 66 on distal ends thereof. The lances 62 extending from each respective linking portion 50 are formed with tapered edges 70 and 74. The tapered edges 70 and ~~74 extend~~ 74 extend in opposite directions on each side of the longitudinal axis 42 from the respective retaining portions 54 of the contact 10.

Please replace paragraph [0025] with the following paragraph wherein unintended punctuation in line 5 is removed:

[0025] The contact 10 is configured to connect and retain the first and second wires that overlap, whereby the first and second wires are orientated substantially perpendicular to each other. Additionally, and as explained below, the contact 10 may interface two different wires formed of different materials. In use, a first wire is received in the first channel 140 ~~and a second~~ and a second wire is received in the second channel 144.

Please replace paragraph [0029] with the following paragraph wherein the fourth sentence thereof is deleted to remove inadvertent underlining in the application as originally filed and an identical sentence is presented thereafter, together with deletion of a duplicate reference numeral 154 noted by the Examiner in the Office Action:

[0029] Figure 6 is a perspective view of the contact 10 in crimped form according to an embodiment of the present invention. A first un-insulated wire 170 is secured within the first channel 140 by the lances 62. A second insulated wire 176 is secured within the second channel 144 by the plurality of teeth 92. ~~In an exemplary embodiment, the wires 170 and 176 are secured to the contact 10 in a single manufacturing step, such as through one bending or crimping operation wherein the wires are more or less simultaneously secured to the contact 10, although it is contemplated that the wires could be separately secured to the contact 10 in sequential manufacturing steps if desired.~~ In an exemplary embodiment, the wires 170 and 176 are secured to the contact 10 in a single manufacturing step, such as through one bending or crimping operation wherein the wires are more or less simultaneously secured to the contact 10, although it is contemplated that the wires could be separately secured to the contact 10 in sequential manufacturing steps if desired. The contact 10 has at least one linking strip 154 extending from one of the side edges 26. The contact 10 is coupled to a carrier ~~strip-154~~ strip which is severed from the contact before the contact 10 is secured to the wires 170 and 176. The points 66 of each lance 62 are offset and the complimentary slopes of each lance 62 enable the lances 62 in a pair to extend substantially parallel with one another in crimped form. The crimping teeth 96 are crimped such that the point 114 of each respective crimping tooth 96 extends over the point 134 of each corresponding piercing tooth 100. Optionally, the crimping teeth 96 may be crimped so that the point 114 of each respective crimping tooth 96 contacts the bottom surface 22 of the corresponding piercing tooth 100. The piercing tooth 100 pierces through the wire to establish contact with the conductive member therein.

Please replace paragraph [0032] with the following paragraph wherein inadvertent underlining is removed in line 16:

[0032] Figure 8 is a perspective view of a contact 300 formed according to an alternative embodiment of the present invention. The contact 300 includes a body 310 having a planar top surface 314, planar bottom surface 318, a pair of side edges 322, and a pair of opposed edges 326. The side edges 322 and the opposed edges 326 extend from the top surface 314 to the bottom surface 318. The body 310 has crimping fingers 334 extending from the opposed edges 326 therefrom. Optionally, the body 310 has piercing teeth (not shown) extending from the bottom surface 318. The crimping fingers 334 pierce through a material or pierce and surround an un-insulated conductor. The body 310 is formed integral with a linkage portion 338 extending from one of the side edges 322 to join a wire retainer 342 to the body 310. The wire retainer 342 has opposed ends 346 and at least one piercing tooth 348 extending from the top surface 314. A wire is received within the wire retainer 342 and aligned with the linkage portion 338. Opposite ends 346 of the wire retainer 342 are bent or crimped around the wire and the piercing tooth 348 pierces the wire to establish contact with the conductive member therein. Optionally, the body 310 is coupled to a carrier strip 352, and the carrier strip 352 is removed as the wires are terminated ~~or crimped~~ or crimped to the contact 300.